

DEEPENING THE SOUL FOR JUSTICE

Why this book made it to Baptist Women's book club list this year

WITH THIS BOOK, AUTHOR BETHANY HOANG offers key insights on seeking justice, but in an unexpected framework. *"Seeking justice doesn't begin at the door of a brothel. Seeking justice begins with seeking the God of justice."*

With this first sentence, Hoang calls us to a pursuit of justice that is more than good intentions. That sentiment is also why we recommend this book to you as part of our theme reading list. *"At the end of the day, if your attempts to seek justice do not first begin with the work of prayer, we will be worn and weary,"* she writes.

Hoang's generosity as an author makes this book an amazing testimony to God's love and detailed care . . . for us and those for whom we pray. She shares with candour about how she stops daily to keep Sabbath and to pray. She lets us in on the culture at IJM and how their corporate daily practices of "stillness" and noon-hour prayer anchor each staff member and each office around the world. She helps us recognize our need to consistently build a framework of hope through being in the presence of the Word and through opening the Word.

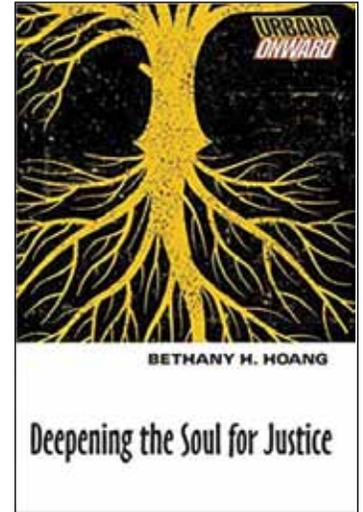
Stop. See. Open. Choose. Ask. Proclaim. Remember. These are more than the chapter headings in this concise resource. With these words, Hoang encourages us to **choose** . . . to pursue God in prayer, first, every day: to rest in His presence every day; to open the Word every day. These actions will guide us into knowing what God calls us to do in the

face of injustice. They will also help us to lay down deeper roots of trust in the power and strength and goodness of God. These roots of trust will sustain our justice passion through all manner of trials, distractions, struggles and the sheer need to persevere in the face of evil.

In 2017, I read and prayed through *Deepening the Soul for Justice* as part of our team devotional times during Baptist Women's short-term mission to Les Cayes, Haiti. It's hard for me to separate all I experienced on that mission trip from my experience reading and praying through the book. Both experiences changed my understanding of God: Jesus is Lord of all the nations (nothing escapes Him) and God His Father, and ours, demands justice and deeply **requires** us to do justly . . . but not at the expense of intimacy with Him.

At the time of writing this book, Bethany Hoang was the director of International Justice Mission's Institute for Biblical Justice.

READOn Bookstore carries this title. See the ad on page 23 for contact information.



RJ ■